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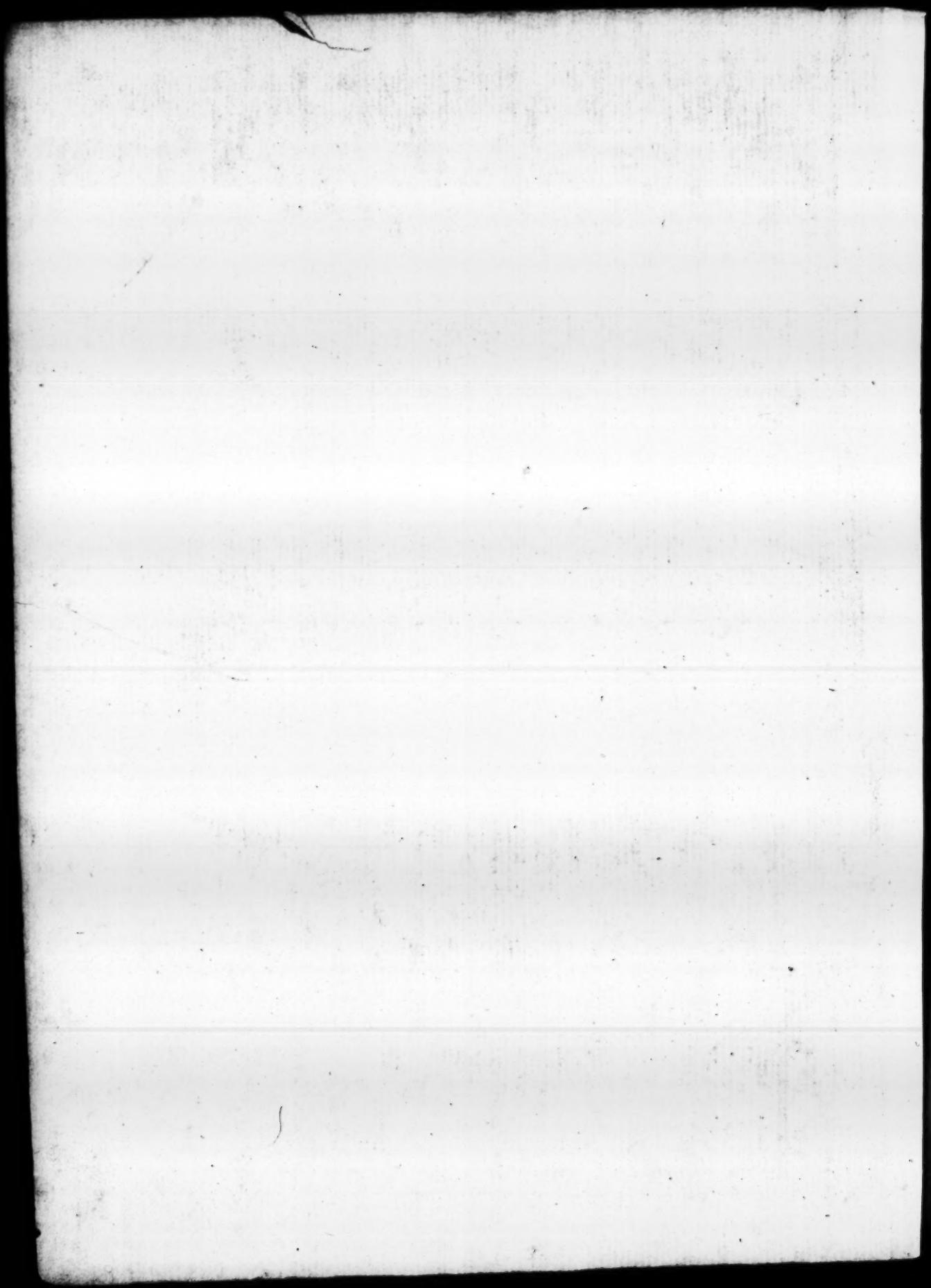
HIS
MAJESTIES
Declaration
To both Houses of
PARLIAMENT,
Martii 21. 1641.

*Which He likewise recommends
to the consideration of all His
loving Subjects.*

In Answer to that presented to Him at
New-Market, the 9. of March

1641.

YORKE:
Printed by ROBERT BARKER, Printer
to the Kings most Excellent Majestie: And
by the Affigues of JOHN BILLE.
M D C X L I.



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GREAT BRITAIN

04136



His Majesties Declaration to
both Houses of PARLIAMENT,
Martii 21. 1641.

Though the Declaration lately presented to Us at Newmarket from both Our Houses of Parliament, be of so strange a nature, in respect of what we expected (after so many Acts of Grace and Favour to Our People) and some expressions in it so different from the usuall Language to Princes, that we might well take a very long time to consider it, yet the clearnesse and uprightness of Our Conscience to God, and love to Our Subjects hath supplied Us with a speedy Answer, and Our unalterable Affecti-
on to Our People, prevailed with

152 (2)
Us to suppreste that Passion, which
might well enough become Us up-
on such an Invitation.

We have reconsidered Our An-
swer of the first of this moneth at
Theobalds, which is urged to have
given just cause of sorrow to Our
Subjects. Whosoever looks over
that Message (which was in effect
to tell Us, That if We would not
joyn with them (in an Act which
We conceaved might prove prejudici-
all and dangerous unto Us and the
whole Kingdom) they would make
a Law without Us, and impose it
upon Our People) will not think
that sudden Answer can be except-
ed to. But you will say, that if we
have little encouragement to re-
plies of this nature, when we are
told of how little value Our words
are like to be with you, though
they come accompanied with all the
Actions of Love and Justice (where
there is room for Actions to accom-
pany

party them) yet we cannot but dis-
allow the having any such evill
Councell or Councillors about vs,
to Our knowledgement, as are men-
tioned; and if any such be discover-
ed, we will leave them to the Cen-
sare & Judgement of Our Parlia-
ment. In the mean time we could
wish, that Our own immediate
Actions (which we avow) and Our
owne Honour might not be so
roughly censured, and wounded un-
der that common Stile of evill
Councillors.

For Our faithfull and zealous
Affection to the true Protestant
Profession, and Our Resolution to
concur with Our Parliament in
any possible course for the propaga-
tion of it, and suppression of Popery,
we can say no more then we have
already expressed in Our Declara-
tion to all Our loving Subjects,
published in Januarie last by the
advice of Our Privie Councell, in
which

which we endeavoured to make as
truly a confession of Our Selfs in
this point, as we were able, being
most assured, that the constant prac-
tice of Our Life hath been answer-
able thereto; and therefore we
did rather expect a testimonie and
acknowledgement of such Our zeal
and pietie then those Expressions
we mett with in this Declaration,
of any Designe of altering Religion
in this Kingdom. And we doe, out
of the innocencie of Our Soul, wish
that the Judgements of Heaven
may be manifested upon those who
have or had any such Designe.

As for the Scots troubles, we
had well thought that those unhappy
Differences had been wrapt up
in perpetuall silence by the Act of
Oblivion, which being solemnly
past in the Parliaments of both
Kingdoms, stops Our Mouth
from any other Reply, then to shew
Our great dislike for reviving the
memory thereof.

It

If the Rebellion in Ireland (so odious to all Christians) seems to have been framed and maintained in England, or to have any countenance from hence, we conjure both Our Houses of Parliament, and all Our loving Subjects whatsoever, to use all possible means to discover and finde such out, that we may joynt in the most exemplary vengeance upon them that can be imagined. But we must think Our Self highly & causelessly injured in Our Reputation, if any Declaration, Action or Expression of the Irish Rebels, any Letter from Count Roserty to the Papists, for fasting and praying, or from Tresram Whitcombe, of strange speeches uttered in Ireland, shall beget any jealousy or mis-apprehension in Our Subjects, of Our Justice, Piety, and Affection, it being evident to all understandings that those mischievous and wicked Rebels are not so capa-

ble of great advantage, as by having their falle Discourses so far beleived, as to raise fears and jealousies to the Distraction of this Kingdom, the onely way to their security. And we cannot expresse a deeper sence of the sufferings of Our poor Protestant Subjects in that Kingdom, then we have done in Our often Messages to both Houses, by which we have offered, and are still ready to venture Our Royall Person for their Redemption, well knowing, that as we are (in Our own interest) more concerned in them, so we are to make a strict Account to Almighty God for any neglect of Our Dutie or their preservation.

For the manifold Attempts to provoke Our late Army, and the Army of the Scots, and to raise a faction in the City of London, and other parts of the Kingdom, if it be said, as relating to us, we can not

not without great indignation suffer Our Self to be reproached, to have intended the least force or threatening to Our Parliament, as the being privie to the bringing up of the Army would imply: where- as we call God to witnesse, we never had any such thought, or knew of any such resolution concerning Our late Army. For the Petition shewed to Us by Captain Legg, we well remember the same, and the occasion of that Conference, Captain Legg being lately come out of the North, and repairing to Us at Whitehall, we asked him of the state of Our Armie, and (after some Re- lation made of it) he told Us That the Commanders and Officers of the Armie had a minde to petition the Parliament, as others of Our People had done, and shewed Us the Copie of a Petition, which we read, and finding it to be very humble, desiring the Parliament

might receive no interruption in the
Reformation of the Church and
State, to the Modell of Queen Eli-
zabeths dayes, we told him we saw
no harm in it: wherupon he replied,
that he beleaved all the Officers of
the Army would like it; onely he
thought Sir Jacob Ashly would be
unwilling to signe it, out of fear
that it might displease Us. we then
read the Petition over again, and
then obseruing nothing in Matter
or Form we conceaved could possi-
bly give just cause of offence, we de-
livered it to him again, bidding him
give it to Sir Jacob Ashly, for
whose satisfaction we had written
C.R. upon it, to testifie Our approba-
tion; and we wish that the Petition
might be seen and published, and
then we beleave it will appear no
dangerous one, nor a just ground for
the least Jealousie or Misapprehen-
sion. for Master Jermyn, it is
well known, that he was gone
from

from Whichehall before we received
the desire of both houses for the re-
straint of Our Servants, neither
returned he thither, or passed over by
any warrant granted by Us after
that time.

For the breach of Priviledge in
the Accusation of the Lord Kymbol-
ton and the five Members of the
House of Commons, we thought
we had given so ample satisfaction
in Our severall Messages to that
purpose, that it should be no more
pressed against Us, being confident,
if the breach of Priviledge had been
greater then hath been ever before
offered, Our Acknowledgement
and Retractation hath been greater
then ever King hath given; besides
the not examining how many of
Our Priviledges have been invaded
in defence and vindication of the
other: And therefore we hoped
Our true and earnest protestation
in Our Answer to your Order con-
cerning

cerning the Militia, would so far have satisfied you of Our intentions then, that you would no more have entertained any imagination of any other designe, then we there expressed. But why the listing of so many Officers, and entertaining them at Whitehall should be misconstrued, we much marvel, when it is notoriously known, the Tumults at Westminster were so great, & their Demeanour so scandalous and seditious, that we had good cause to suppose Our own Person, and those of Our wife and Children to be in apparent danger; and therefore we had great reason to appoint a Guard about Us, and to accept the dutifull tender of the Services of any of Our loving Subjects, which was all we did to the Gentlemen of the Inns of Court.

For the Lord Digby, we assure you, in the word of a King, that he had Our warrant to passe the seas,

seas, and had left Our Court before
we ever heard of the Vote of the
House of Commons, or had any
cause to imagine, that his ab-
sence would have been excepted
against.

What your Advertisements
are from Rome, Venice, Paris, and
other parts; or what the Popes
Nuntio solicites the Kings of
France or Spain to do, or from what
persons such Informations come
to you, or how the credit and repu-
tation of such persons have been
sifted and examined, we know not,
but are confident, no sober honest
Man in Our Kingdoms can be-
lieve, that we are so desperate, or so
sencelesse to entertain such De-
signes, as would not onely bury
this Our Kingdom in sudden di-
straction and ruine, but Our own
Name and Posterity in perpetuall
scorn and infamy: And therefore
we could have wished, that in
Matters

Matters of so high and tender a na-
ture, (Wherewith the intimes of
Our good Subjects must needs be
startled) all the Expressions were so
plain and easie, that nothing might
stick with them with reflection on
Us, since you thought fit to publish
it at all.

And having now dealt thus plain-
ly and freely with you by Way of
Answer to the particular grounds
of your Fears, we hope (upon a due
consideration and Weighing both
together) you will not finde the
grounds to be of that moment to
beget, or longer to continue a Mis-
understanding betwixt Us, or force
you to apply your selves to the use
of any other power, then what the
Law hath given you, the which
we alwayes intend shall be the mea-
sure of Our own power, and expect
it shall be the rule of Our Subjects
obedience.

Concerning Our Fears and Jeal-
lousies,

thinkes, as we had no intention of
 accusing you, so are we sure no
 words spoken by us (on the sud-
 den at Theobalds) will bear that in-
 terpretation. we said for Our Re-
 sidence neer you, we wist it might
 be so safe and honourable, that we
 had no cause to absent Our Self
 from Whitehall: & how this can be a
 breach of Priviledge of Parliament,
 we cannot understand: we explain-
 ed Our Meaning in Our Answer at
 New-market, at the presentation of
 this Declaration, concerning the
 printed seditious Pamphlets and
 Sermons, and the great Tumults
 at Westminster: And we must appeal
 to you and all the world, whether
 we might not justly suppose Our
 Self in danger of either: And if we
 were now at Whitehall, what securi-
 ty have we that the like shall not be
 again: especially if any Delin-
 quents of that nature have been ap-
 prehended by the Ministers of Ju-
 stice

stice, and been relched by the People, and so as yet escape unpunished. If you have not been informed of the seditious words used in, and the circumstances of, those Turmuls, and will appoint some way for the examination of them, we will require some of Our learned Councell to attend with such evidence as may satisfie you: and till that be done, or some other course taken for Our security, you cannot (with reason) wonder that we intend not to be where we most desire to be.

And can there yet want evidence of Our hearty and importunate desire to joyu with Our Parliament and all Our faithful Subjects, in defence of the Religion and publicke good of the Kingdom: Have we given you no other earnest but words to secure you of those desires: The very Remonstrance of the House of Commons (published in November last) of the State of

the

the Kingdom, allowing Us a more
readie Execution of Our good Af-
faires, and for the bettering of the
standers of the King, that Religion
and Justice are so high a rate, that we
declared the Kingdom to be then a
garter, though it had charged it self
by Bills of Summons and Peti-
tioners, with the leaue of 800000. L.
besides the contracting of a Deut to
Our Scots Subjects of 220000. L.
At the Wills of the Parliament
Parliament, for remouinge the
Turke of impouing upon Merchante-
men, and other of plating of Soule
dore, for the bettering of the Starre
Chamber, and the Continuall
Comynge, for the Regulatinge the
Custome of the towne of Edinburg
the stakinge the forest, the stain-
dinge of the Crenell of the Bar-
berie, and the makinge of the Cister
of Whores but of the 200000. L.
In words. Lastly, what weier
earnest of Our trust and treaure

on Our Parliament could, or can we give, then the passing of the Bill for the continuance of this present Parliament: the length of which, we hope, will never alter the nature of Parliaments, and the constitution of this Kingdom, or infect Our Subjects so much to abuse Our Confidence, as to esteem any thing fit for this Parliament to do, which were not, if it were in Our power to dissolve it too morrow. And after all these, and many other Acts of Grace on Our part (that we might be sure of a perfect reconciliation betwixt Us and all Our Subjects) we have offered and are still ready to grant a free and generall pardon, as ample as your selves shall think fit. Now if these be not real Expressions of the affections of Our Soul for the publique good of Our Kingdom, we must confess that we want skill to manifeſt them. To

To conclude (though we think
Our Answer already full to that
point) concerning Our Return to
London, We are Willing to declare,
That We look upon it as a matter
of so great weight, as with refer-
ence to the Affairs of this King-
dom, and to Our own Inclina-
tions and Desires, that if all we can
say or do, can raise a mutuall Con-
fidence (the onely way, with Gods
blessing, to make Us all happy) and
by your incouragement the Laws
of the Land, and the Government
of the City of London, may recover
some life for Our security, We will
overtake your desires, and be as
soon with you as you can wish: And
in the mean time We will be sure
that neither the busynesse of Ireland,
or any other Advantage for this
Kingdom, shall suffer through our
Default, or by our Absence. We
being so far from repenting the

Notes of our Justice and Grace,
Whiche we have already performed
to our people, that we shall with
the same Maiesty the first readye to
add such memorie, as may best
advancethe peace, honore, and
greate prosperiteit of this our
Empire under our commandement
and certaine intent, to make this and
all other Realme a shew unto all to get
acquainted therewith (whereof this) shalbe
the first. Item in the first place
comyng to the remeinge of the same
emperie whiche we have
commanded to be done, that we ordene
and command that nobredy to shew
thys act, **CHARTA** of our emperie
as we have, & that they shew
emperie of us noy anoy deth noy
and of thys act shew them selfe in
bachelors to all men, and to
the clergie, and to all the
peple of our realme and to shew
the same to all the world of yond
emperie.